

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Entry of the preliminary prior to examination on the merits is respectfully requested. Claims 1-8 have been amended for US examination. No new matter is added. Claims 1-8 are pending.

**CONCLUSION**

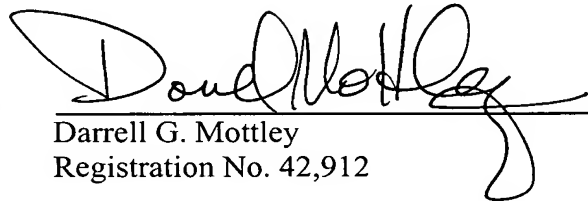
It is believed that no fee is required for this submission. If any fees are required or if an overpayment is made, the Commissioner is authorized to debit or credit our Deposit Account No. 19-0733, accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Dated: December 21, 2005

By:

  
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DGM/mhn